South London Entomological and Natural History Society. At the time of his death he was investigating the effects of natural selection on an Italian x British strain of the yellow form of the moth, breeding happily in his garden.

Another example of the excellence of his field work was his discovery, with A. L. Goodson, that the Marsh Mallow (*Althaea officinalis*) was the foodplant of *Hydraecia hucherardi* Mab. This was published in 1955 in the *Entomologist's Gazette.*

He was also fascinated by the problem of the distribution of the Vapourers with their usually wingless females, and he was particularly intrigued by the Japanese species *Orgyia thyellina* with its alternating broods of winged and wingless females.

Bernard in some ways belonged to the last century, when field work by first-class amateur naturalists, some of them like him truants from medicine, built up the taxonomy of the Lepidoptera. He it was, however, who showed by his genetic studies how right these amateurs were. Bernard also belonged to this earlier generation because then people were not afraid to enter into full-blooded controversy (his outspoken answer to J. W. Heslop-Harrison on melanism is a good example of this) but there was never anything underhand or scheming in his attacks, he just said what he thought. In character he was touchy, argumentative and often maddening, but he could laugh at himself and was extremely good company. He had one particular edge on us all — everyone loved him.

H. B. D. Kettlewell, D.Sc., M.A., M.B., F.R.E.S., etc.

By R. F. Demuth *

I would like to write about Bernard Kettlewell who died so tragically this May. He was my oldest friend; we were contempories at Charterhouse, lived on adjoining staircases at Caius College, Cambridge and shared digs in Holland Park, London until he married Hazel. Subsequently when he had settled into his practice at Cranleigh, I was a frequent visitor and being myself then unmarried, relished the family life which he enjoyed with Hazel and their two young children.

Bernard never did things by half. Fast sports cars were driven at excessive speed. When looking for larvae with me, he would consider it a failure if he did not find twice the number that I did. Furious quarrels were provoked but any party was a success from the moment Bernard entered the room. I first came across him at a school natural history outing at Hydon Ball in Surrey in 1922. He had seen a moth on a tree trunk and it had flown off and I had caught it and he demanded its return and I had refused and we did not speak for a long time. However, while we were still school boys we had spent a holiday together in the New Forest. This gave me my first insight into his acumen which subsequently made him famous. We spent days beating for larvae and at last had

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taken an *Apatele alni* in its last but one instar when it mimics a bird dropping. Bernard at once asked "Why does it mimic a bird dropping?" "Because it sits exposed on the top surface of leaves". We proceeded to bend down the numerous saplings which grew along the edges of the rides (but which thanks to the Forestry Commission grow no more) and Bernard was right for on the upper leaves in full sun we must have collected a dozen *alni* larvae in both penultimate and final instars. That night we sugared in Hurst Hill and came across an old and well known collector, obviously annoyed because we had forestalled him on the best trees. "What have you boys been collecting?" "We have got a lot *alni* larvae." "You must be mistaken. I have collected in The Forest for twenty years and have never seen one yet." (*Alni* was then considered a great rarity.) Next morning we visited him in his digs. He was having breakfast. "Ah boys, what can I do for you?" "We have come to show you the *alni* larvae" and we wipped off the lid of the biscuit tin and spoilt his breakfast.

At Cambridge Bernards collecting instincts had full rein. As a medical student he was up during the summer months and he soon had most of the rareties of the Fens and Brecks. We drove madly from place to place in his open Alvis. At high speed the breaks would go on with a squeal. "What on earth is the matter?" "Plover nest!" The car would violently reverse and Bernard would get out and stride a surprisingly long way across an adjoining field, uneringly to the nest and returned with the eggs. They will do for *my* breakfast". The Brecks were his particular favourite. Sometimes he would return excited with tales of eagles seen (to Bernard all his buzzards were eagles and some actually might have been). This led to inevitable clashes with keepers. I have seen him abruptly orderd off but within five minutes he had so won the keepers heart that he was being invited "to take a look at a stone curlews nest with unusually speckled eggs".

In his maturity his collecting drive wained and he entered into the period of scientific research which was so much to his credit. I remember when *Hydraecia hucherardi* was first discovered, I joined a large party in Romney Marsh which included such good entomologists as Robin Mere. We spent four nights on it, littering the Marsh with m.v. traps and spending the evenings in local pubs. We caught two *hucherardi* and returned to London none the wiser. Bernard, alone, followed us a few days later and in three days had the foodplant, the best locality, the pupae, the perfect insect and (I think) fertile eggs.

While he was still a keen collector, Bernard had helped to form the R.C.K. Collection of British Lepidoptera. Cockayne, who was the driving force, had groomed Bernard as his heir but Bernard was unable to sustain his interest in the collection which now bore his name and with his family left England to live in South Africa, an action which rather naturally led to a breach with Cockayne which was never firmly mended. On

Cockayne's death, we, with others, became trustees of the Cockayne trust fund and failed to see eye to eye on how the income should be expended but the breach here we happily healed.

Bernard was a clever man with a vigorous personality. He taught well (my daughter was one of his Oxford pupils), lectured well and wrote well. His "Evolution of Melanism", inspite of its scientific content, is remarkably readable but his book on Darwin, jointly written with Julian Huxley, inspite of the popular appeal of the subject, falls flatter. He was also a good shot and was a frequent guest at fashionable shoots. Throughout his married life he was sustained by his splendid wife. After nearly sixty years I shall miss him, both the rough and the smooth!

IDEA VULPINARIA ATROSIGNARIA LEMPKE (LEAST CARPET IN STREATHAM.— To add to other recent records of this moth in the Greater London area, I collected an example which flew into a house on Tankerville Road, Streatham on the night of the 12th July 1979. As this species has been recorded as feeding quite happily on *Alyssum saxatile* L., a common garden plant, there would appear to be no limit on its spread through the whole of the south east of England, if not further. — E. GEOFFREY HANCOCK, Bolton Museum and Art Gallery, Le Mans Crescent, Bolton, Greater Manchester.

THE LARGE EMERALD (GEOMETRA PAPILIONARIA L.) IN SCOTLAND. — Whilst travelling down the West coast of Scotland, a single specimen of *Geometra papilionaria,* was collected at light on August 4th 1979 at Ardfern, Craignish; grid reference NM 805044. Apparently this moth is described as not occurring in Scotland, according to Midwinter, H. J. (ed.) (1976) *Moths in Colour,* Blandford Press. The specimen, although badly damaged in transit has been retained.— DAVID C. HOCKIN, 3 Western Avenue, Ellon, Aberdeenshire. [This species has long been known to inhabit Scotland, and moreover has been recorded from there over a wide area. — EDITOR.]

EUPITHECIA MILLEFOLIATA ROSSL. IN S.E. LONDON. — On the night of 4th July 1976 I took a large and conspicuous 'pug' at my m.v. lamp here, which was unknown to me. When shown recently to my friend Mr. J. M. Chalmers-Hunt, he at once recognized it as the above species, and was surprised on learning the locality. Dr. de Worms was with him at the time and agreed with his determination.

This appears to be the first capture in the London area of *E. millefoliata,* which I am told is hitherto recorded only from some of the more maritime parts of Kent, Sussex and Hants. Like certain other insects taken here during that phenomenally hot and dry spell in 1976, my specimen may have migrated from a considerable distance; but whether it represents a true extension of range inland from the known breeding-centres can only be decided by future experience. — A. A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London SE7 8QG.